GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:177
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2002
PENDING EXCISE CASES
MAHESHWAR SINGH;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 50,000 cases relating to Central Excise Duty realisation are pendingwith the Ministry and the total amount involved is to the tune of Rs. 10,000 crores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the parties having vested interests in the said cases are causing inordinate delay taking the advantages of the cumbersome proceeding; and

(d) if so, the step taken to remove such procedural delay?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

(a) and (b) As on 30.9.2002 there were 50142 cases of confirmed demands involving Central Excise duty of Rs. 11,320 crores, pending realization with the Central Excise Departmentall over India. Every year some old cases are liquidated and some fresh cases added.

(c) Most parties do prefer the recovery proceedings to be delayed or postponed. For thisthey resort to various legal steps. Department has to defend such cases in the court/appellate forum resulting in delays.

(d) Such administrative and legislative steps are taken by the Department as are considerednecessary to deal with such cases. Some of the steps taken are, (1) effective monitoring (2) filing petitions for early hearing of cases, (3) creating separate Recovery Cells for handling such cases.